

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 INR-07
CU-02 EUR-12 PRS-01 DHA-02 NEA-10 /068 W
-----251937Z 107785 /41
P R 251749Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1037
INFO USMISSION USUN
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 08863

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNESCO, PORG, OCON
SUBJECT: UNESCO: PROCEDURES TO REDUCE POLITICAL
CONFRONTATION

REF: (A) STATE 65129, (B) PARIS 7031, (C) PARIS 7738

1. IT IS CONSIDERED JUDGMENT OF PERMDEL THAT FIRST
STEP SHOULD BE TO THOROUGHLY CONSIDER SECRETARIAT
DOCUMENT NOW BEING PREPARED FOR ITEM 5.6.2 WHICH IS
ENTITLED "STUDY OF THE PROCEDURES WHICH SHOULD BE
FOLLOWED IN THE EXAMINATION OF CASES AND QUESTIONS OF
HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SPHERES OF ITS COMPETENCE, IN
ORDER TO MAKE ITS ACTION MORE EFFECTIVE." THIS LENGTHY
DOCUMENT SHOULD BE OUT SOON AND IS DESIGNED TO BE A
COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF HOW HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLAINTS ARE
HANDLED THROUGHOUT THE UN SYSTEM AND WILL CONTAIN
SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MODIFICATIONS OF UNESCO
PROCEDURES, POSSIBLY SETTING UP OF A NEW, ENLARGED
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IN COMPETENCE, COMMITTEE, SEE REFTL (C). WE UNDER-
STAND THAT THE DOCUMENT WILL BE 122 PAGES OF TEXT AND
THAT IT HAS BEEN EXTENSIVELY REVISED PERSONALLY BY THE
DG.

2. WE CAN THEN PREPARE A MAJOR STATEMENT FOR A US INTER-
VENTION UNDER THIS AGENDA ITEM. TONE AND SUBSTANCE OF

OUR INTERVENTION WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON US ANALYSIS OF SECRETARIAT DOCUMENT, BUT CAN EXPAND THEREON IF NECESSARY TO GET ACROSS OUR POINT OF VIEW. WE SHOULD ALSO BE FLEXIBLE ENOUGH TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE TONE OF THE VERY EXTENSIVE DEBATE WHICH WILL EVOLVE.

3. A US INTERVENTION WOULD BE DESIGNED TO GIVE A PUSH TO PROPOSED PROCEDURES AND/OR TOWARDS DEVELOPING FURTHER PROCEDURES WHICH WILL REDUCE POLITICAL CONFLICT IN UNESCO FORUM. ITS SUBSTANCE SHOULD FIRST BE DISCUSSED WITH EXBD CHAIRMAN MARTIN AND WITH OTHER WE'S. THEIR VIEWS SHOULD BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT SO THAT WE CAN NEGOTIATE A COORDINATED WESTERN APPROACH. UK IS CHAIRMAN OF THE NINE AND OUR DRAFT COULD BE GIVEN TO PERMREP CARR FOR PRESENTATION TO THE NINE WITH THE VIEW TO TRYING TO GET THEIR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD TO MAKE INTERVENTIONS ALONG THE SAME LINE.

4. PERMDEL IS OF THE CONSIDERED JUDGMENT THAT A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ALONG LINES PROPOSED IN REFTEL (A) IS NOT PRACTICAL OR POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME. WE DOUBT IF THERE WOULD BE ANY SUPPORT FOR SUCH AN EFFORT EVEN AMONG OUR FRIENDS. FURTHERMORE, INNOCUOUS 102 EXBD AGENDA ITSELF MAY BE TAKEN AS SECRETARIAT "DEPOLITICIZATION" MOVE. WE SHOULD NOT UPSET THIS "INITIATIVE" BY INTRODUCING A POLITICAL ITEM OURSELVES. THEREFORE, THE BEST PROCEDURE WOULD BE TO USE THE AGENDA ITEM AND SECRETARIAT DOCUMENT AS THE BASIS FOR OUR STATEMENT AND IF WE PROPOSE SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO DO SO WITHIN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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FRAMEWORK OF THE EXBD.

5. REFERRING TO PARA 9 OF REFTEL (A), PERMDEL WOULD FURTHER STRESS THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS ITEM UNDER 5.6.2 DEALS WITH AN ESTABLISHED UNESCO COMMITTEE, THE COMMITTEE ON CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, WHICH HAS BEEN IN EXISTENCE FOR SOME TIME AND WHICH WAS SET UP TO HEAR HUMAN RIGHTS COMPLAINTS, MAINLY BY INDIVIDUALS OR ORGANIZATIONS AGAINST MEMBER STATES. IT IS NOT RE-

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 08863

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LATED TO THE ISRAEL ISSUES OR OTHER POLITICAL ISSUES WHICH COME BEFORE THE BOARD, SUCH AS CHINA'S EFFORTS AGAINST NGO'S WITH AFFILIATES IN TAIWAN OR RESOLUTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. WE WOULD NEED TO KNOW WHETHER THE DG'S DOCUMENT ON ITEM 5.6.2 WOULD BE AN OPENING TO HANDLE ALSO THESE ISSUES WHICH HAVE CAUSED UNESCO DIFFICULTIES. HOWEVER, AT THIS STAGE THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AND OTHER POTENTIAL PROBLEMS MUST BE KEPT ENTIRELY SEPARATE. PERMDEL CONTINUES TO BE OF THE OPINION THAT THE 102ND BOARD SHOULD NOT GET INVOLVED IN THE ISRAEL ISSUES, AS SUCH.

6. OUR CONCLUSION IS THAT DEPARTMENT AND PERMDEL SHOULD CAREFULLY ANALYZE THE DOCUMENT WHICH WILL SOON BE RELEASED AND PREPARE A STRONG INTERVENTION FOR THE PLENARY MEETING. WE WOULD WANT TO DISCUSS OUR PROPOSED TEXT WITH MARTIN AND OTHER WE'S. THE ITEM 5.6.2 WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF A MEETING OF THE IG PRIOR TO THE BOARD MEETING AND WE CAN PRESENT THE OUTLINE OF OUR TEXT AT THAT TIME. THE ITEM IS NOW SET FOR THE BEGINNING OF THE MEETING AND WE FEEL IT WOULD BE BETTER OFF TOWARDS THE END TO ALLOW MORE TIME FOR CONSULTANT AND NEGOTIA-
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TION WITH OTHER EXBD MEMBERS. WE WOULD PROPOSE TO MARTIN AT AN EARLY DATE THAT HE SHIFT HIS ITEM TO THE END OF THE SESSION. HOWEVER, WE WOULD PLAN TO GO TO LONDON TO TALK AT LENGTH WITH MARTIN AS SOON AS WE HAVE OUR ANALYSIS AND OUTLINE OF OUR INTERVENTION READY. OUR TARGET DATE WOULD BE NO LATER THAN THE SECOND WEEK OF APRIL. IN SUCH A TOUR D'HORIZON WITH MARTIN WE CAN

ALSO GET HIS IDEAS ON WHAT, IF ANYTHING, WE CAN EXPECT
TO LAUNCH AT THE SEPTEMBER BOARD SHOULD CONDITIONS IN
THE MIDDLE EAST AND US PAYMENT SITUATION MAKE THINGS
FAVORABLE FOR ACTION ON THE ISRAELI ISSUES.
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